

100-442-1076

FAIM

P.B.

(EA128)

October 22, 1981

Dear Senator Cranston:

Thank you for your letter of October 5 on behalf of your constituent, concerning the cases of Federico and Hilda Leikis Alvarez Rojas, Deborah Benshoen, Eduardo Grutsky, and Gustavo Meloy Camin and Mario Guillermo Camin.

Deborah Benshoen has been detained without charges under the National Executive Power for four years. The Government of Argentina is aware of the great interest in her case and we hope that a favorable decision may be made soon. According to our information, Mr. Grutsky is also being held under executive powers and his requests for right of option to Israel have been turned down on two occasions.

The other persons mentioned are among the disappeared. In response to our inquiry several years ago about Mr. and Mrs. Leikis, who disappeared in 1976, the Argentine Government responded that it had no information concerning them. As concerns Gustavo and Mario Camin, father and son, the family informed our Embassy that they disappeared on May 12, 1978 in Mendoza. There were no witnesses to either of the disappearances. In 1979 the Embassy inquired about the case but received no information.

We have asked the Embassy to inform you directly if there are any developments in these cases.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard Fairbanks
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations

Enclosure:

Correspondence returned.

The Honorable

Alan Cranston,
United States Senate.

cc: American Embassy

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Drafted: ARA/SC:SKO Connell:mas

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(Disc #8) #137-2173

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